

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 070593
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FOLLOWING TELEGRAM FROM BANGKOK DATED MARCH 13, 1978
SENT CANBERRA INFO GENEVA, HONG KONG, KUALA LUMPUR,
SINGAPORE, SECSTATE WASHDC IS REPEATED TO YOU: QUOTE

UNCLAS BANGKOK 7557

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SREF, VM, TH
SUBJ: MORE REFUGEES LEAVE SONGKHLA CAMP, ALLEGEDLY HEADED FOR
AUSTRALIA

REF: BANGKOK 7398

THIS FOLLOWING MESSAGE SENT FROM SONGKHLA TO BANGKOK
H/W REPEAT TO YOUR POST

QUOTE

REF: SONGKHLA 0112

1. APPROXIMATELY 51 VIETNAMESE REFUGEES STOLE TWO BOATS,
RG0632 AND VNKG 1221, THE NIGHT OF MARCH 11 SUPPOSEDLY HEADING FOR
AUSTRALIA. THE EXACT NUMBER WHO LEFT IS NOT YET KNOW. ALMOST ALL
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PAGE 02 STATE 070593

OF THE REFUGEES ABOARD WERE SINGLE YOUNG MEN WHO DESPAIRED OF
EVER LEAVING THE SONGKHLA CAMP FOR A THIRD COUNTRY. THE NAMES OF
THE 51 KNOWN TO HAVE LEFT WILL BE SENT SEPTEL.

2. AFTER OFFER MADE BY DISTRICT CHIEF REFTTEL, ABOUT 175 REFUGEES
IN CAMP INDICATED DESIRE TO GO TO AUSTRALIA. THE CAMP COMMANDANT
WAS IN PROCESS OF ASKING PERMISSION FROM PROVINCE OFFICIALS FOR

THESE 175 TO LEAVE WHEN 51 SNUCK OUT OF SONGKHLA. THOSE NOT ON
BOARD WERE UPSET AS WERE POLICE GUARDS AT CAMP AND DISTRICT POLICE
CHIEF THIS INCIDENT WILL UNDOUBTEDLY LEAD TO MORE PROBLEMS AND
AN EVEN GRATER LOWERING OF THE MORALE OF THE REFUGEES IN CAMP.
HAYASHIDA
UNQUOTE
WHITEHOUSE UNQUOTE VANCE

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NNN

Message Attributes

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